

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

PRINCETON NEW JERSEY

Department of English

October 11, 1933.

Rev. Stewart M. Robinson  
1161 E. Jersey Street  
Elizabeth, N.J.

Dear Stewart:

It was nice to see you and Mrs. Robinson, and I am sorry I had to run away before you left. I am returning the editorial. One or two suggestions:

For the word "that" in the second line, would not "the movement" be better?

I was naturally very much interested in reading your editorial, and I think its spirit is sane and fine. But I predict that you will be bombarded with letters of protest. It might be tactically worth while to remind your readers of the fact that Hitler is personally a total abstainer and in his book sharply rebukes the superficial sneers of Europe at America's genuine effort to come to grips with the problem of alcoholism in the Eighteenth Amendment. Of course, this was written before Prohibition had stimulated bootlegging more than temperance. But as you head your article "Hitler", it throws an interesting sidelight on his personal character. which is austere and self-denying. For a Bavarian, to abstain from all alcoholic beverages, even coffee and tea, and tobacco, is certainly unique! He is a fanatic nationalist, but he certainly does not encourage self-indulgence or profiteering at the expense of the state. One thing the Nazis have accomplished is to clean out the political corruption and profiteering which seems to have been the only lesson that the politicians of the Weimar Constitution thoroughly learned in their attempt to imitate the parliamentarism of Western democracies.

One other point might be worth while to make, viz., that the attack of the Nazi philosophy on "democracy" is an attack on political parliamentarism rather than on the underlying principle of government for the people and in the interest of the people. The one word that occurs constantly in Hitler's writing, and in the press inspired by him, is "Volk".



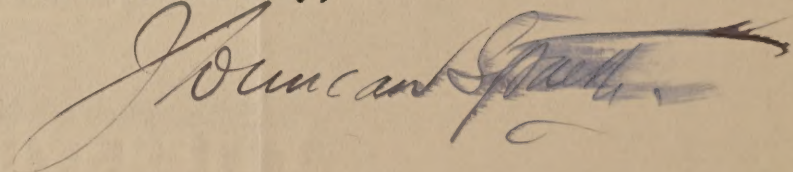
His organ is the "Völkische Beobachter". I told some of my Nazi friends (in spite of my criticism of their method I found them friendly when they realized that I tried to understand their ends) that the only way in which I could translate that title would be "the Democratic Observer", and the only way in which I could translate the prose tract of that great democrat Walt Whitman, "Democratic Vistas", into German would be "Völkische Ausblicke".

You will find in the Times of today, page 17, an interesting item recording the support of the German temperance party for Hitler and their approval of Hitler's stand on alcoholism. Appropos of Dickstein's absurd attack on Nazi propaganda as threatening to overturn the government of the United States (see today's and Sunday's Times) it might be worth while to bring out the fact ~~that~~ <sup>which</sup> the German government itself rather clumsily stated this morning in reply to Dickstein, <sup>that</sup> the very thing which differentiates National Socialism from Communism is this: that while communism as an international class-warfare movement undermines all national governments, national socialism supports the national principle in every country. I saw in Germany President Roosevelt's book translated into German and advertised as "America's experiment in National Socialism". The real danger lies, of course, in the implication of the Hitler doctrine that all "racial" Germans should be national Germans, which runs counter to the fundamental principle of American nationalism. But that is another story. *that*

Do let me see more of you in the days to come. I should like to give an address at some time, perhaps in the seminary, on the situation of the evangelical church in Germany. If you are interested in Karl Barth, and read German, I shall be glad to send you his striking discussion of the movement to establish an episcopate in Germany.

Kind regards to Mrs. Robinson,

Yours faithfully,



Enclosure

JDS:A



**Tabernacle Presbyterian Church**  
THIRTY-SEVENTH AND CHESTNUT STREETS  
PHILADELPHIA

**HOWARD MOODY MORGAN, D. D.**  
MINISTER

October 21, 1933

The Rev. Dr. Stewart M. Robinson  
Second Presbyterian Church  
Elizabeth, N. J.

My dear Dr. Robinson:

Thank you very much for your good letter of recent date. It was a great joy to see you again, even though it was for a short time.

I shall be writing you in a few weeks in regard to the preparatory service. It will be one of the last weeks of January, and I do hope we shall be able to secure your services.

As to your gracious suggestion about something for The Presbyterian, I can only say that getting out three new ones for my own people here fills up all the time. As you fully appreciate, this is a man-size job. Sometime later, however, I shall be glad to send along an article.

With very sincere regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

HMM\*MB

*Howard*